

SMALLBURGH
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

●

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the
Year 1950

●



Dr. C. O'DONOVAN,
M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

SMALLBURGH
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

●

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the
Year 1950

●

Dr. C. O'DONOVAN,
M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

SECTION A.

Area of District in acres	70,017
Population (1931 census)	15,690
Population 1949 (estimated)	17,150
Structurally separate dwellings (1931) Census—	
Occupied	6,077
Unoccupied	51
Rateable Value	£66,633
Estimated Penny Rate	£269

Live Births—	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	243	117	126
Illegitimate	17	8	9
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	260	125	135

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 15.2.

Still Births—	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	3	2	1
Illegitimate	1	1	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4	3	1

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births, 15.38.

“ “ “ per 1,000 population, 0.23.

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Deaths	219	98	121

Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population, 12.88.

Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis	<i>Nil.</i>
Deaths from other Maternal Causes	<i>Nil.</i>

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	4	4	—
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4	4	—

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	30
“ “ Measles (all ages)	—
“ “ Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
“ “ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	—

SECTION B.

Public Health Officers of the District :

Medical Officer of Health—

Dr. C. O'DONOVAN, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor :

A. L. TAUNTON, C.R.S.I.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

A. E. FORD, Cert. R.S.I.

Laboratory Facilities :

E.P.H. Laboratory, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich.

Ambulances are supplied through the Norfolk County Council by the British Red Cross Society and Order of St. John.

Nursing in the Home :

(a) District Nurses of Norfolk Nursing Federation.

(b) Private Hire in Infectious Diseases.

Clinics and Treatment Centres :

None in District.

HOSPITALS.

Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Jenny Lind Hospital for Children, Great Yarmouth and North Walsham Cottage Hospitals all take cases from the area. Infectious cases for which isolation is considered necessary are admitted to the Isolation Hospital at Dereham and Norwich Isolation Hospital. The Coltishall Nursing Home takes a small number of Maternity cases from the District.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

					<i>Total</i>
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	24
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	160
Acute Polio—					
Para.	..	..	..	..	3
Non-Para.	..	..	..	..	1
Measles	..	..	..	..	361
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	—
Acute Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	17
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	—
Smallpox	..	..	..	..	—
Acute Encephalitis	..	..	..	..	—
Typhoid Fever	..	..	..	..	—

Paratyphoid Fevers	—
Erysipelas	8
Meningococcal Infection	—
Food Poisoning	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1
Infective Hepatitis	13
Weils Disease	1

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case-rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1950.
Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	148 Smaller Townships (Resident Pop. 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Admin- istrative County
	<i>Rates per 1,000 Home Population.</i>			
Births—				
Live births	15.8	17.6	16.7	17.8
Still births	0.37	0.45	0.38	0.36
Deaths—				
All Causes	11.6	12.3	11.6	11.8
Typhoid and paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping cough	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.36	0.42	0.33	0.39
Influenza	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.07
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis (in- cluding polioencephalitis)	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Pneumonia	0.46	0.49	0.45	0.48
Notifications (corrected)—				
Typhoid fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Meningococcal infection	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Scarlet fever	1.50	1.56	1.61	1.23
Whooping cough	3.60	3.97	3.15	3.21
Diphtheria	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03
Erysipelas	0.17	0.19	0.16	0.17
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	—	—
Measles	8.39	8.76	8.36	6.57
Pneumonia	0.70	0.77	0.61	0.50
Acute poliomyelitis (in- cluding polioencephalitis)				
Paralytic	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.08
Non-paralytic	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.05
Food poisoning	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.25
Deaths—	<i>Rates per 1,000 Live Births</i>			
All causes under 1 year of age	29.8(a)	33.8	29.4	26.3
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1.9	2.2	1.6	1.0
Notifications (corrected)—	<i>Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births</i>			
Puerperal fever and pyrexia	5.81	7.43	4.33	6.03

(a) Per 1,000 related live births.

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales.

<i>International List No. and cause</i>	<i>Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births</i>	<i>Rates per million Women aged 15-44</i>
651. Abortion with sepsis ..	0.09	7
650, 652. Other abortion ..	0.05	4
640-649, 670-678. Complication of pregnancy and delivery	0.54	—
681. Sepsis of childbirth and the puerperium	0.03	—
680, 682-689. Other complications of the puerperium ..	0.15	—

Causes of Death.

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Tuberculosis	2	2	—
Tuberculosis (other forms)	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	7	3	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	2	2	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	2	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	1	—	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	18	10	8
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	3	1	2
Diabetes	1	—	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	43	17	26
Coronary Disease, Angina	20	11	9
Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	1	1
Other Heart Disease	58	23	35
Other Circulatory Disease	6	3	3
Influenza	2	2	—
Pneumonia	6	3	3
Bronchitis	2	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	—	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	1	—
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	1	—
Nephritis	3	1	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	4	4	—
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	2	—	2

Carried forward .. 187 86 101

			<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
	<i>Brought forward</i>	..	187	86	101
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	..	..	24	9	15
Motor Vehicle Accidents	..	..	1	1	—
All other Accidents	..	..	4	2	2
Suicide	..	..	1	—	1
Homicide and Operations of War	..	..	2	—	2
All causes			219	98	121

TUBERCULOSIS.
New Cases during 1950.

			<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>		<i>Totals</i>
			<i>Males</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	
Aged under 1	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
„ 1 to 5	..	..	—	—	2	1	3
„ 5 to 15	..	..	2	1	2	1	6
„ 15 to 25	..	..	2	3	1	—	6
„ 25 to 35	..	..	—	3	—	1	4
„ 35 to 45	..	..	—	1	—	2	3
„ 45 to 55	..	..	1	—	—	—	1
„ 55 to 65	..	..	1	1	—	1	3
„ 65 and over	..	..	1	—	—	—	1
Totals	..	..	7	9	5	6	27

Deaths during 1950.

			<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>		<i>Totals</i>
			<i>Males</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	
Aged under 1	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
„ 1 to 5	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
„ 5 to 15	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
„ 15 to 25	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
„ 25 to 35	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
„ 35 to 45	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
„ 45 to 55	..	..	1	—	—	—	1
„ 55 to 65	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
„ 65 and over	..	..	1	—	—	—	1
Totals	..	..	2	—	—	—	2

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The total number of Cowkeepers, Dairymen and	
Retailers is	169
The number of Producer Retailers is	72
The number of Wholesale Purchasers (for	
retailing) is	4

Inspections during the year were as follows :—

Dairymen's premises	244
Retailers' premises	310
Retailers' vehicles	127

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936-46.

The total number of " T.T. " producers is ..	66
The total number of " Accredited " producers is	12

In actual numbers the producers of designated supplies may appear small, but they do produce nearly two-thirds of the total gallonage produced in the area, so the figures quoted are not so bad as they appear to be. At the same time we are not satisfied and shall keep slogging away until we are 100% designated.

The vehicle question is becoming a difficult one for retailers, and as stated above a total of 127 inspections of vehicles were made during the year. In order to carry out deliveries in this rural area it has been necessary to use private cars, open lorries and similar vehicles, and the condition and cleanliness of these vehicles has not been too satisfactory, and warnings of possible prosecutions have had to be given to the persons concerned.

Milk Sampling.—No sampling of milk supplies has been carried out direct by the Local Authority during the year. In all cases where sampling was considered necessary the facilities of the Norfolk County Council have been asked for and freely given, and the position to date is reasonably satisfactory.

The Collection of Milk Supplies in Bulk.—In this respect an improvement has been noticed, and the empty or full churns are not left for hours on end in exposed positions, but are placed in position at definite times, thus obviating the risk of pollution. Of course the position will never be completely satisfactory until all supplies are collected from the actual farm buildings—under cover.

Animals Slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order of 1938.

Three animals were slaughtered under this Order during the year, and in each case, tuberculosis was confirmed. In addition two other animals were found to be suffering from tuberculosis, on slaughter.

Meat and other Foods.

Slaughterhouses.—The number of slaughterhouses in the rural district is :—

Registered	11
Licenced	5

These slaughterhouses are used for casual work only. They are in good condition, well cleansed, and regular inspections are made to ensure this. No prosecutions or warnings have been found to be necessary, the owners or occupiers being keen on keeping these slaughterhouses for possible future use.

There are no Knacker's Yards in the rural district.

The number of Licenced Slaughtermen is 16.

Butchers' Shops.—The number of butchers' shops in the rural district is 21 and, with the exception of 3, all are of modern construction, well-lighted, and entirely suitable for the business carried on. All have efficient refrigerators, and I am satisfied that supplies retailed from these shops are dealt with in a clean and wholesome manner. These premises are regularly inspected, and no complaints have been received concerning them.

Bakehouses.—We have 9 bakehouses in the area, none of these being underground. These bakehouses, whilst not of modern construction, are kept clean and free from vermin, and inspections are made at all times to ensure this.

Sanitary Accommodation for Shops and similar premises.—During the past year many improvements have been carried out to the sanitary accommodation of shop premises in the larger villages, and the standard now is much higher than in former years. In my opinion this is due largely to the actual shopping public, who, by reading articles in the public press, have insisted that alterations and improvements are necessary and overdue. Again it may be due to the difficulty of obtaining—and retaining—suitable employees.

The Clean Food Campaign.—There is still a lot to be done in this direction. Obviously it is difficult to request a butcher to adopt better methods when his meat is delivered from a central depot in a dirty van, or asking the greengrocer to keep his goods out of the reach of dogs, etc., when the bags of greens are thrown from the delivery van on to the pavement or roadway. Generally speaking the shopkeepers have been co-operative and a certain degree of improvement has been noted.

The Local Authority has adopted Byelaws for the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air, and copies of these Byelaws are being delivered by hand to each shop, etc., and the contents explained to a responsible person.

Condemned Foodstuffs.—Below I give a list of all foodstuffs, meat, etc., condemned and destroyed during the past year.

Condemned Carcase Meat :

Beef (Home-killed)	..	..	263 lbs.
„ (Imported)	..	..	320 lbs.
Mutton	..	..	36 lbs.

Tinned Foods :

	No. of Tins		No. of Tins
		<i>Brought forward</i>	239
Apricots	3	Meat (Potted) ..	4
Baked Beans ..	58	Milk	328
Beef Steak Pudding	2	Mincemeat	4
Beef Loaf	5	Penjel Jellies ..	173
Blackberries ..	3	Peaches	5
Blackcurrants ..	2	Pears	17
Brisling	1	Peas	47
Carrots	56	Pilchards	2
Cherries	10	Pineapple	1
Crab Paste	3	Plums	828
Crayfish	6	Pork	41
Damsons	9	Prunes	2
Gooseberries ..	3	Rhubarb	10
Grapes	6	Salmon	12
Grapefruit juice ..	3	Sardines	10
Greengages	5	Sausages	8
Ham	1	Scotch Broth ..	2
Herrings	8	Soups (Veg.) ..	35
Jams	12	Stewed Steaks ..	2
Luncheon Roll ..	1	Strawberries ..	2
Marmalade	6	Tomatoes	13
Meat in Gravy ..	36	Veal and Ham ..	2
<i>Carried forward</i>	239	<i>Grand Total</i> ..	1,787

GENERAL.

Water Supplies.

- (i) There has been no shortage of supplies during the year, and the situation as regards quantity has much improved. Of course we still have very many shallow wells of from 10 to 20 feet in depth, and these are a source of great suspicion and should be replaced as early as possible with piped supplies.

After due consideration the Local Authority decided to purchase the two war-time boreholes at the Ludham Airfield, to supply the Area ' B ' of the district scheme, and as it was anticipated that the supply would be sufficient, proceeded with the laying of water mains of various sizes in the Parishes of Catfield, Hickling and Sutton. In accordance with usual practice a test for yield was applied to the larger of the boreholes, and during this test the supply gave out, and on the advice of the Council's Consulting Engineers the borehole was abandoned. This left us with the smaller of the two boreholes, and unfortunately this also gave trouble and had to be abandoned. We were now in the position of having laid mains and having no supply to pass through them. However the Council were not to be beaten, and it was decided to sink a new 6" diameter pilot bore at Ludham, and should this be successful to proceed with a larger bore, capable of supplying our own area and also part of that of the Blofield and Flegg Rural District. I am pleased to report that this pilot bore has proved reasonably satisfactory, and the details concerning the proposed large bore are now being worked out.

In passing it should be mentioned that when the Ludham boreholes were abandoned a connection was made from the supply at Stalham to the new mains laid from Sutton to Ludham Airfield, and a limited supply has been given to certain properties served by these mains.

- (a) Quality : This has been reasonably good.
 - (b) Quantity : Has been ample, and no carting has been necessary other than that where pumps have broken down.
- (ii) The Parishes of Horning and Hoveton draw their supplies from the City of Norwich waterworks, and the Water Engineer concerned has submitted reports showing these supplies to be suitable in all respects for domestic purposes.

Stalham is supplied from a borehole, 400 feet in depth, and the public analyst states this supply is of excellent quality and fit in all respects for a public supply. The total quantity taken from this borehole during the year was 6,259,700 gallons.

(iii) No reports have been received of contamination by lead.

(iv) 41 samples of well water were submitted to the analyst during the year with the following results :—

Approved Supplies	..	..	24
Unsatisfactory	..	..	5
Poor	..	..	3
Salinity doubtful	..	..	2
Definitely unfit	..	..	7

In certain cases where the supply was certified as “unfit” it was not always possible to obtain an alternative supply at a reasonable distance, and difficulties have arisen. Cleansing of the well and surrounding area has improved the supply where it has been unsatisfactory, but the only permanent solution is a piped supply of guaranteed quality.

(v) Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of the population supplied from public service mains :—

Parish of Hoveton—

Estimated number of houses	..	..	449
Number of houses having direct supply into the house	..	..	144
Estimated number of persons supplied	..	449	
Number of dwellings supplied by means of stand-pipes	..	..	98
Estimated number of persons supplied	..	305	

In addition the following are supplied from the mains :—

(a) Business premises, meter supply	..	12
(b) Lock-up shops and offices, not metered	..	3
(c) Supplies to farm lands, metered	..	8
(d) Supplies to school, metered	..	1

Parish of Horning—

Estimated number of houses	..	..	..	294
Number of houses having direct supply into the house	..	..	..	83
Estimated number of persons supplied	..			245
Number of dwellings supplied by means of stand-pipes	..	..	..	30
Estimated number of persons supplied	..			111

In addition the following are supplied from the mains :—

(a) Business premises, meter supply	..	..	8
(b) Supplies to farm lands, metered	..	..	6
(c) Supplies to school, metered	..	..	1

Concerning the Parishes of Hoveton and Horning, the Engineer and Manager to the Norwich Waterworks gives the following additional information which may be of interest.

	<i>Hoveton</i>	<i>Horning</i>
Number of houses supplied where		
baths are fixed	118	54
W.C.'s are fixed	111	51
there are more than one W.C.	17	16
there is no W.C.	36	29

Parish of Stalham—

Estimated number of houses	..	..	407
Number of houses having direct supply into the house	..	..	277
Estimated number of persons supplied	..		823
Number of dwellings supplied by means of stand-pipes	..	..	17
Estimated number of persons supplied	..		63

I think the Council will agree that the Parishes of Horning, Hoveton and Stalham are not making the best use of their piped supplies. In these three Parishes with a total of approximately 1,150 dwellings, only 504 are supplied with a piped supply to the dwelling, and a further 145 dwellings are supplied by means of a stand-pipe. These figures, whilst being a slight improvement on those of 1949, are not too good when considering the time the schemes have been in force.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the year.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	537
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	1,442
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Regulations ..	146
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	633
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	19
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	98

Note.—Concerning paragraph (4) above, it is estimated that at least 40 of these dwellings require reconstruction or the addition of bathrooms, water closets and similar facilities. My sanitary officers have in many cases inspected these dwellings with the various owners, and I am hoping that in due course schemes of reconstruction will be approved by the Local Authority.

One of the major difficulties we are having to deal with to-day is that of the dwelling let at a weekly rental of from 2/6 to 5/-, including rates. In several of these cases where the owner is unable financially to carry out the required repairs, the Housing Estates Manager has also inspected the property, with a view to the Local Authority taking over the property and carrying out the needed repairs or reconstruction. In each case the Housing Estates Manager has been obliged to advise against the proposal.

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.

The number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers was	68
---	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

Proceedings under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Notices that questions of demolition would be considered	47
Demolition Orders made	21
Undertakings accepted	17
Notices to execute works	11

Proceedings under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Number of dwelling-houses demolished during the year where Demolition Orders were in force	20
--	----

The following housing particulars are given by the Council's Housing Estates Manager.

Requisitioning.

Number of properties under requisition at 31/12/50	17
Number of properties occupied at 31/12/50 ..	15
Number of properties requisitioned during 1950	—
Number of properties released during 1950 ..	13

Temporary Housing.

Number of occupied properties on the Ludham Airfield Estate at 31/12/50	62
Number of occupied properties on the Worstead Park Estate at 31/12/50	7
Number of occupied properties on the Horning White Lodge Estate at 31/12/50	4
Number of occupied properties on the Petersfield Estate at 31/12/50	10
Number of properties Demolished during 1950	—

Permanent Housing.

The Council owns a total of 889 dwellings as under :—

1919 Assisted Scheme	48
1923 Acts	6
1924 Acts	412
1931 (Rural Authorities) Act	28
Slum Clearance	58
1936 Act (Overcrowding)	34
1938 Act (Overcrowding and Slum Clearance)	3
(Accommodation of members of aggregate pop.	19
Not subsidised	77
1946 Act	204

In addition to the above, the following 76 traditional houses were completed and occupied during the year :—

Catfield	6	Smallburgh	6
East Ruston	10	Trunch	6
Felmingham	6	Tunstead	20
Happisburgh	12	Worstead	10

Scavenging.—This is carried out by direct labour in the Parishes of Hoveton, Ludham and Stalham, mechanical vehicles being employed. Nightsoil is removed twice weekly and house refuse once weekly, a staff of seven men being engaged on this work. The Local Authority also carries out collection of nightsoil and house refuse at the “Sea View Estate,” Bacton, under an arrangement with the representatives of the estate. In an endeavour to improve scavenging facilities in the district the Local Authority has placed refuse bins at selected positions in the coastal parishes and also those parishes adjacent to the “broads,” and these bins have proved to be of real service. They are cleared at definite times and are always full to overflowing, and I advise the Council to enlarge on this scheme until such time as a complete scavenging scheme can be provided for the whole area.

The disposal of house refuse is a difficult problem, and further dumping places will have to be found unless the erection of a suitable incinerator is proceeded with.

The Local Authority has agreed to commence a scavenging scheme for the Parish of Horning in the early part of 1951, and the necessary vehicles have been placed on order.

A total of 298 cesspools were emptied during the year, the number of actual emptier loads being 583, and of these loads 183 were chargeable to the occupiers.

May I place on record that your scavenging staff have carried out their duties well during the year, considering the difficult weather conditions we have had.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Particulars of the work carried out during the year are as follows :—

Number of properties inspected for infestation	1,155
“ “ “ found to be infested	848
Total number of pre-baits laid	20,403
“ “ “ poison baits laid	7,128
Dead rats found and destroyed	2,455
“ mice found and destroyed	619

Payments made for the service of the rat-catcher at
business properties (60 properties) £27 2s. 6d.

In the course of the year all of the parishes in the district were serviced, many on several occasions.

The Local Authority's refuse dumps at Hoveton, Ingham and Ludham were dealt with each quarter, and in addition various unofficial dumps in the parishes were serviced.

The rat-catcher attended a further instruction course in June. He was away ill for two weeks during the year, and this with his two weeks' holiday and instruction course brought his number of working weeks to 47.

We received 11 complaints during the year, and these were adequately dealt with, with satisfactory results.

I am still of the opinion that many occupiers fail to give us immediate notice of infestation until the damage is done. To take one example, a person called at the office and made a complaint, and when we visited it was found that over 5 cwt. of potatoes had been completely ruined, together with a quantity of apples. Had this person approached us at the first sign of infestation it would probably have saved him severe loss, and given us greater satisfaction.

Nuisances, 1950.

Accumulation of refuse	1
Broken highway drains	2
Dampness in dwellings (serious)	2
Defective cesspools	2
,, drainage	5
,, pail closets	4
,, vault closets	5
,, thatched roofs	2
,, tiled roofs	3
,, slated roofs	1
Drainage discharging into ditch	1
,, ,, on to a beach	7
,, from holiday camp defective	1
Drains blocked or broken	3
Dwellings in bad condition	2
Foul ditches	2
Nightsoil discharged into River Bure	2
Overcrowding (serious)	1
Pig-keeping	2
Refuse dumps on fire	5
,, ,, (nuisance from)	1
Smoke nuisance from factory premises	4
Total	58

All of these nuisances were investigated, and with the exception of one were all abated. The one exception is the "smoke nuisance from factory premises," and in this case the necessary materials for altering and extending the factory chimney are not yet to hand.

Drainage and Sewerage.—The new Stalham sewerage scheme has now been completed and the work of making the connections from the sewers to the boundaries of the properties and then to the actual dwellings, etc., is now in progress. The work of preparing these schemes and submitting them to the Health Committee of the Council has involved a great strain on the staff of the Surveyor's department, but the work is proceeding as quickly as can be, subject to reasonable limitations. Records of all these connections must be prepared and filed for future use, and, as in this instance, where many properties have had to be combined for sewerage connection purposes, with different contractors dealing with the individual properties, the Council will appreciate that a certain amount of tact and good humour has been required.

I am of the opinion that the proposed sewerage scheme for the Parish of Hoveton should be carried out as early as possible, as conditions in this Parish are not too good.

Horning again is a Parish where a scheme is needed, and it is no use disguising the fact that a certain amount of drainage matter is entering the River Bure from the properties in this Parish, with the consequent risk of pollution and danger to health.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1949.

There are 101 factories in the rural district, all of these having machinery of some kind, and carrying on the following trades or businesses.

Bakehouses	9	Fruit grading	2
Blacksmiths (mechanical)	2	Garages	13
Boatbuilding	21	General engineering ..	1
Brewery	1	Grain cleaning and	
Butchers		storage	1
(slaughterhouses)	16	Motor engineering ..	2
Building	10	Motor haulage, etc. ..	3
Cycle brazing	1	Quick freezing factory	1
Electrical depot ..	1	Sailmaking	1
Engineers		Stonemasons	1
(agricultural)	1	Timber sawmills	3
Flour milling	8	Well sinking	1
Fruit canning	1	Wicker fencing makers	1

PART I OF THE ACT.

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	M/c. line No.	Number on Register	Number of			M/c. line No.
			Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	72	115	3	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	16	49	3	—	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	3	11	1	—	3
Total		91	175	7	—	

2.—Cases in which Defects were found—

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	M/c. line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted	M/c. line No.
		Found	Remedied	Referred			
				To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	5	5	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	1	1	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	Nil.	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	Nil.	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	Nil.	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)							
(a) Insufficient	9	4	4	—	—	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defec- tive	10	1	1	—	—	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	2	2	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out- work)	12	Nil.	—	—	—	—	12
Total	60	13	13	—	—	—	60

Licences granted to store Petroleum Spirit.

A total of 69 licences to store 59,121 gallons of petroleum spirit were granted during the year; the fees received for these licences amounted to £43 15s. 0d.

The Control of Camping and of Moveable Dwellings.

The supervision of moveable dwellings and investigation of complaints regarding camping is causing difficulties, as my Inspectors' time is fully taken up with other matters connected with public health.

There have been many complaints regarding individual campers who erect a tent or deposit a caravan on a site for a week or so, and it may not be generally known that a licence from the Local Authority is only required if land is occupied for camping or for the purpose of a moveable dwelling if the site is used for this purpose for more than 42 consecutive days or more than 60 days in any twelve consecutive months. Again the Minister of Health has given certificates of exemption to certain organisations, such as the Boy Scouts, the Caravan Club of Great Britain, and similar bodies. In this rural area, having several coastal parishes, there appears to be a need for additional camping sites, and I would suggest the Council give this matter their consideration, as it appears that camping has come to stay and the numbers of campers will increase from year to year.

May I place on record my appreciation of the excellent work carried out by the Officers of the Public Health Staff during the year 1950.

C. O'DONOVAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

A. L. TAUNTON,

*Senior Sanitary Inspector
and Building Surveyor.*

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Smallburgh Rural District Council.
July, 1951.*

